

**Minutes of the Meeting
Town/Village of Northfield Merger Committee
March 19, 2007 – 5:00 p.m.
Northfield Municipal Building**

Chairman Melvin Adams opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. Also present were Trustees Richard Suitor and James Wilson, Committee members Frank Plumley, Steve Jeffrey, Art Supplee and Manager Allard. Selectman Gregory Sanders joined the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Chairman Adams reviewed the work and the Committee has done to date and the potential schedule for completion and Town Meeting action. A general discussion ensued regarding what has happened to “merger” in other communities and how Northfield could avoid that happening here.

Trustee Suitor had prepared a checklist of items for consideration regarding merger such as: Why Merge?; Highway Department; Utilities; Tax Rate; Charter/Merger Document; Services; and Resolution of Existing Liabilities and Assets. The Committee also questioned the Town Highway’s taxing authority. Currently there are three taxing entities – Town General, Town Highway and Village. It is unclear if that is legal.

Ultimately, the Committee decided to break into subcommittees to review the Utilities (Richard, Frank and Greg); Accounting/Policies (Art, Jim and Jay) and the Highway Departments (Steve, Mel and Mike).

The Committee would like maps of the Town and Village and the current utility services area.

The next meeting will be April 16, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Office.

A motion was made by Trustee Wilson at 6:32 p.m. to adjourn, seconded by Art Supplee. So moved.

Respectfully submitted,

Nanci Allard

Nanci Allard
Acting Clerk